

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 20, 2012

11:00 a.m. Legendary Waters Ballroom

Meeting called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Rose Soulier, Tribal Chairperson.

ROLL CALL:

Rose Soulier, Present

Nathan Gordon, Present

Laura J. Gordon, Present

Dennis Soulier, Present

Mike Gurnoe, Absent

Joanne Peterson, Present

Bryan Bainbridge, Present

Jeanne Gordon, Present

Marvin Defoe, Present

Quorum

Also in attendance: David Ujke, Red Cliff Tribal Attorney, Red Cliff Chief of Police Bill Mertig and Officer Kyle Cadotte, Bayfield County District Attorney Craig Haukaas, Bayfield County Sheriff Paul Susienka, Attorney, Thomas Heffelfinger, Red Cliff Housing Director Mike Babineau and staff, and community members.

AGENDA

Dennis Soulier moved to approve agenda to add Personnel Issue/Law Enforcement in Executive Session. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY ISSUES

Everyone is concerned with what happened here; we have Thomas Heffelfinger an attorney from Minnesota here with information for us, Craig Haukaas, Paul Susienka and Bill Mertig will talk on what happened.

Chief Bill Mertig has discussed this weekend with Administration. There are a lot of rumors are flying around, AIM was suppose to come in, suppose to be some guns and knives around, we have found no proof of this. Law enforcement is not receiving any cooperation from the community and it is still under investigation. There were 9 arrests made for various reasons, 3 were from outside the community, all have been released.

Joey Duffy stated 96% of the people here in Red Cliff are good people; the other 4% are bad, we know who they are. When they get arrested they turn around and beat the cops back to Red Cliff. Why can't they sit 90 days to cool off and today nothing happens to our kids. Back in our day you got it at school and you also got it when you got home. Teachers can do nothing to children. Chief Mertig stated it's up to the Council and community what they would like to see resolved and then they will do whatever is necessary. They follow the Red Cliff Constitution here along with the Wisconsin codes.

Thomas Heffelfinger explained what they did in Minnesota to curb gang activity etc. He stated they go to small communities get a girlfriend, establish residence and go from there selling drugs, recruiting etc. The biggest gang activity comes from Arizona and South Dakota. The Native Mob started in Minneapolis and infiltrates Ojibway communities like LCO. In 2003 Mille Lacs started a Task Force started by the FBI, Bureau of Alcohol, (9 state and 2 federal agencies) due to gang activity and serious firearm activity. It usually starts at pow-wows. Gang members are usually known through the Department of Corrections and are in Leech Lake, Red Lake etc. The Bayfield County Sheriff's office and Red Cliff Tribal police must be involved. In 2006 there was a federal indictment in Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth for drug prosecution and still in operation. A year ago as a result of prosecution 18 individuals are waiting for sentencing or for trial. I understand there are a lot of prescription drugs here and the Native Mob does a lot of transporting drugs. MOU's are important to have with District Attorney for prosecution. Chief Mertig stated they have 3 full time officers to cover 7 days a week, if a case is small it probably won't get to the District Attorney's office. The Tribal Chiefs, NAIDG and DCI get together for meetings and information. Discussed banishment ordinance, monies for drugs in the community and so forth.

Cindy Garrity asked what happened to the registering for residence with Law enforcement here in Red Cliff. It never got off the ground. Polices like in Housing can be revisited, violence on books etc. Thomas Heffelfinger stated evictions were used in South Dakota and was used for the entire household. Look at your leases and the language if there are in violations of the lease.

Gretchen Morris expressed a concern with young girls beating up boys, hurting each other. We have a problem in the community with violence. The community needs to get together and stop it.

Mark Duffy stated we know who the dealers are, but the problem is convictions, and a legal way to deal with it. It is important the police know, if they get stopped for some reason it can develop into a bigger case.

Discussed small police force, violence and not stepping up by the community. Craig Haukaas stated reports are done well but people will not come forward and it is hard to get a case need community help. Discussed Neighborhood Watch, Gretchen Morris will check with LCO on the program they use with traditional components.

Mike Babineau stated the Red Cliff Housing is looking at two part-time Security to assist law enforcement. They will have no authority to arrest anybody. Chief Mertig stated Red Cliff is the same size as Washburn and they have five full time Officers. Law Enforcement in Red Cliff needs to be a priority. Thomas Heffelfinger stated this is a good time to apply for grants in Washington for all departments. Contact Tom Heffelfinger if we need assistance.

Maxine Babineau explained she received a legal opinion from their Attorney on evictions, they have policies and they must be followed. If someone calls on something then they need a

written statement but they never come in with one. We can't act on calls. Discussed. Chairperson Rose Soulier stated we can get copies of LCO and Lac du Flambeau policies and compare them to ours. Law Enforcement will enter Housing homes if needed be but will not if denied unless a very good reason such as emergency etc. Red Cliff must get tougher on leases, evictions; Council has authority to make laws. Discussed.

Question asked why the Wardens can't be utilized to assist the law enforcement department they are certified. If we had stricter laws we would see a change in the people. Parents must take the responsibility for their children, need to step up and fix their families.

Kids are partying in empty boarded up places. There was a situation in the bar, a lady left because she got scared. Law Enforcement checked with Security said that it didn't occur and there was no tape. Robert Bear witnessed the situation; some other patrons left also. This situation will be followed up on.

Marvin Defoe moved to look at stricter rules for the Red Cliff Housing and Tribal leases. Seconded by Nathan Gordon. Discussed timeframe, make sure tenants know policy changes. Legal to look at lease forms in effect and Chapter code for amendments for Tuesday meeting. Motion carried.

Discussed a multi task force. Chairperson Rose Soulier stated we should get NAIDG here to meet with the Council and the Community to express concerns. Chief Mertig will make the arrangements.

Law enforcement is willing to work with any rules that are established here. When cases are taken to Tribal Court they have a hard time collecting on citations etc.

Dennis Soulier moved to direct Legal, Law Enforcement and Red Cliff Tribal Court to work on the issues of the effectiveness of Tribal Court collections and proposed amendments. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried. An update will be given at the seconded meeting in September.

Gretchen Morris will check on the Neighborhood Watch program and coordinate with Chairperson Rose.

Jeanne Gordon moved to direct the Planning Department to seek funding for the Law Enforcement Department as a priority, not excluding other programs. Seconded by Marvin Defoe. Discussion: other programs should be writing grants with the assistant of the planning department. Motion carried.

Bryan Bainbridge moved to have Legal look into a banishment policy. Seconded by Laura J. Gordon. Motion carried.

Marvin Defoe moved to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Jeanne Gordon. Motion carried.

Laura J. Gordon moved to go back into Regular Session. Seconded by Marvin Defoe. Motion carried.

Marvin Defoe moved to have Legal (Dave Ujke) look at the hours of off sales and liquor sales and bring report back to Council. Seconded by Dennis Soulier. Motion carried.

Marvin Defoe moved to Adjourn. Seconded by Bryan Bainbridge. Motion carried.

Adjourned: 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathy Hanson".

Kathy Hanson
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura J. Gordon".

Laura J. Gordon, Secretary
Red Cliff Tribal Council